BY AUNT JUNE

Our Boys and Girls Corner

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DEDICATED TO EVERY BOY AND GIRL IN CANADA

My dear Boys and Girls::—

So many members have written to ask for a description of our new badge. I am sure many of you must be excitedly waiting for yours, and I hope very much that you will like it and be proud to wear it wherever you go.

No Canadian badge of any kind would seem quite complete without our beautiful emblem upon it, the Gay Maple Leaf. Do you think so? When we sing—

"The Maple Leaf our emblem dear
The Maple Leaf forever."

we really mean the Land of the Maple, Canada. Canada for ever! Canada, may she be ever strong, chivalrous and good and patriotic. These are the thoughts which really run in the mind of every true citizen who sings the song of his nation, and if Canada is to be "Forever brave and loyal" it will take the efforts of every boy and girl who is now growing up to make her so. Your country will be just what you make it. How will you, as a Helper, help your country? By giving your best service wherever you are, according to the words on our little pledge. Now to go back to our badge. Of course, then, the Maple Leaf is on the badge and next to the Maple Leaf is the sign of industry, our second Canadian emblem, and every helper knows what it is. Mr. Beaver, whose story you had in last week's letter, is sitting up on the badge, very proud of being next to the pretty Maple Leaf, and when we see him he reminds us that we are expected to be good workers, to make everything we take up count, to make it count for something worth while, and if we work when we work we shall be able to really play when we play and enjoy every minute of our days. Dear me, isn't this a long sermon about the badge, but now you know a little of what it looks like, and as I write this I have word that several hundreds of the new ones are almost finished, so that the next Helpers who write in will be able to have a brand new badge right away.

Our Mail Bag.

I am delighted to get holiday news from a number of helpers who are thoroughly enjoying days by the water and out at camp. Joan Dickson is staying near the Georgian Bay and she writes that she is having the most beautiful holiday you can imagine, and Joan apparently is not forgetting to be a helper while she is holidaying for I see an account in her letter of several acts of service. For one thing she has been helping to amuse and look after some of the younger children while staying at the same place. Well done, Joan! This is the second letter I have had from you and I am just delighted to hear again. Did you ever send the paper to your cousin in the West? I hope you will tell me about this next time you write.

Roger Burk is living for the summer at Muskoka. Roger seems to enjoy fishing most of all, but he says he was sorry to have to leave his garden at home, thought someone has promised to water and look after it for him.

Thank you for your letter, Roger; think what a nice surprise you will get when you return home to find all your garden things grown up. You shall have a badge.

Phyllis Smith wants to know the name of a little flower which she found in the woods while picnicing one day. It is a small bell-shaped flower hanging on a slender stem. Perhaps bell-shaped is hardly the right description altogether, as it has several kinds of lobes where ordinarily the petals would be. In coloring it is a kind of plum-shade, or mauve. The name of this little flower is the pitcher plant. It is a very interesting little flower indeed. Next time you find one of these if you look closely at each little pitcher you will find they are filled with water. The leaves are also covered with a sticky substance. Now this plant is really a carnivorous one. Do you learn about the different animals at school? If you do you will know that a carnivorous animal is one which eats flesh, or eats other animals. Now the pitcher plant might be described as carnivorous not because it eats other plants but because it eats insects. I suppose you will think it very funny to talk of a flower eating insects, but it is perfectly true. The sticky substance on the leaves of the pitcher plant entangles the feet and wings of the insect who walks over it. And as he steps down into the pitcher which is full of water, he becomes so helpless that he is drowned, and it is then that the plant absorbed the whole insect or draws it up for food. So you see, Phyllis, you found a very interesting little flower.

PLEDGE.
For Young Helpers' League of Service.

"Do a little kindness to someone every day.
Scatter rays of sunshine all along the way."

I pledge myself in the service of my King and Country to DO MY BEST IN MY DAILY WORK, wherever it may be, to help others wherever possible, and to endeavor in every way to make myself A GOOD CITIZEN.

Date.....

Name .....

Age .....

Address .....

RIDDLES.

This week's riddles:—

R.—What is the best thing to do in a hurry?

R.—Why are guns like trees?

R.—What smells most in a chemist's shop?

Arthur Mason sends in a new riddle:

R.—Why is a star in the heavens like a window in the roof?

That is a good one, Arthur. I wonder how many will guess it first time.

Notice for New Members.

Boys and girls who wish to join the Service League and become Helpers must note the following rules:—Sign the pledge at the top of the sheet and post to Aunt June, 515 Manning Chambers, Toronto. Every boy and girl who wishes to join the League must send in an account of an act of service performed every day for a week before he or she can receive a badge. Write a letter to Aunt June telling all about the helping you have undertaken, enclose the pledge and a three-cent stamp for postage of badge.

When you have received the badge, I want every Helper to wear it and to lose no opportunity of **doing something for others.**

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides have only to send in the pledge and stamps to get a badge, as all scouts and guides are already pledged to serve their country.

FOR LITTLE HELPERS.
A Short Fairy Tale in Verse.
By L. M. Attwell.

Of a little princess my song shall be
Who lived in the long ago.
Ah! she was as fair as a flower to see
All princesses are, you know.
With golden locks
And lovely frocks,
"How sweet," said a child I know.

With a sad little tune my song must start
And set to a metre slow.
It tells of a poor little longing heart
All heavy with grief and woe.
And what about none could make out;
"Dear, dear," said the child I know.

Now this little princess just longed to be—
Oh, never mind how I know—
Just a plain little child like you and me
In the days of long ago.
To make mud pies
'Neath summer skies,
"Never," said the child I know.
Poor little princess.

Who would want to be a princess after all; its far more fun being just a Helper, don't you think so, though the princess that we know, Princess Mary and her four brothers, are all, I think, true Helpers, because they help everybody in so many ways whenever they get the chance, and I'll tell you a secret, which perhaps you may know, that a little girl or boy who is a Helper is as useful to his or her country any day in the week as any prince or princess.

Next week I am going to tell you a story about a prince, so look out for your corner.

Yours lovingly,
AUNT JUNE.

RING the bell,
Knock at the door,
Why don't they answer me?
I'd lift the latch and walk right in,
But It's locked--
And I've no key.

Find three other persons. Upper right corner down, on the door; upper side down, on the door; upper side down, in vines.

THE NIAGARA RIVER AND ITS ATTRACTIONS

It is doubtful if the people of Ontario know as much as they should about the fine heritage which is being developed for them on the banks of the Niagara River. This heritage consists of nearly 1200 acres of park lands stretching along thirty-five miles of waterway between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. The development of the area is in the hands of the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park Commission—an Ontario Government Board, headed by Mr. P. W. Ellis of Toronto. There is in course of development a series of parks connected by a modern, well-paved boulevard system stretching from Fort Erie to Niagara-on-the-Lake. The old battle grounds of Fort Erie, Lundy's Lane (Drummondville Cemetery) and Queenstown Heights, and the historic burial ground of the Butler family near Niagara-on-the-Lake, are being preserved. The Boulevard is complete for the 20 miles separating the village of Fort Erie from the city of Niagara Falls, and the near future will see the system extended by way of the Whirlpool, the Niagara Glen, Queenstown Heights and the lower river drive to Fort George and Fort Mississauga at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The commission derives its revenue in the main from the rentals paid by the hydro-electrical enterprises which develop their power within the park.

The commission has recently issued the first of a series of pamphlets dealing with this Ontario playground. The publication is entitled "The Niagara River with its Canadian Environs." Beginning with Fort Erie on Lake Erie, the narrative touches all the points of historic interest and natural beauty between that place and the mouth of the river at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The writer takes the reader to Navy Island, the headquarters of William Lyon MacKenzie's rebellion in 1837, to Chippewa with its old shore battery, the Dufferin Islands, the Niagara power plants, Table Rock and Queen Victoria Park. Special attention is paid to the attractions of the Niagara Glen, a spot some distance below the whirlpool, which is not nearly so widely known as it should be. This secluded resort, formerly called Foster's Flats, seems to be known to comparatively few people, but in natural beauty and scenic grandeur it ranks next to the Cataract itself. Hemmed in between beetling cliffs and the raging river, it is reached by means of a long precipitous downward climb. Once at the bottom, one realizes what the bed of the Niagara River must look like, for the Glen was once a portion of that bed from which the waters long ago subsided. The handiwork of the potent stream is apparent on all sides. Ponderous overhanging crags, ice cold grottos and capacious "pot holes" proclaim the ages during which the mighty Niagara held full sway here. The enormous rocks scattered about the floor of this retired resting place might have been tossed there and forgotten by careless giants in their play. They are in reality the ruins of an ancient table rock that overhung the cataract when it was located at this point. From the foot of the cliff, seductive foot paths thread their tortuous ways amidst the tall trees and abundant shrubbery, past surprising caverns, through natural arbors, under archways of stone to rustic seats beneath rocky ledges, and finally to the river bank, where once again the scenery arrests the eye and charms the appreciative mind. In this sheltered spot the vegetation may be classed as almost subtropical. Orchids and otherive plants seldom found in this high latitude thrive in these leafy dells.

Next come Queenstown Heights with the monuments to Sir Isaac Brock and Laura Secord, the superb panorama to be viewed from the foot of these monuments, and the old forts at the mouth of the river. The pamphlet contains much interesting data regarding the early history of the region, the dimensions of the cataract and river, and the remarkable changes that have taken place in the position and appearance of the cataract even in the memory of living men. It quotes the descriptions of the falls written by Charles Dickens, Tom Moore and other men of literary note. The little work is illustrated by a series of interesting photographs. It may be said without exaggeration that the pamphlet makes as interesting a bit of reading as has appeared for sometime.

Attention is called to the fact that after three years of diversion for Hydro-Electric purposes, the waters of the Niagara again flow among the Dufferin Islands. These islands, named after the former Governor-General, are once more a favorite resort of tourists who delight in the miniature rapids and cascades, the rustic bridges and the quiet resting places here to be found. The swimming pool at the foot of the islands is again in free use by hundreds of young people and gondolas will shortly appear among the islands. The commissioners took advantage of the shutting off of the water to improve the shore line for nearly a mile and to conduct experiments for the new intake to the Chippewa-Queenstown Hydro-Electric Power canal. These experiments yielded a body of useful information regarding the ice problem which has been proved of value to the engineers in charge of the great power canal now in course of construction.

In Victoria Park the lily pond has been reconstructed. It now includes a central rockery for semi-aquatic plants. Different species of water lilies, including the rare rose-hued lilies, will make the pond a resort for visitors. It may be said in conclusion that the public-owned refectory or restaurant conducted by the commission within a minute's walk of the Horseshoe Falls attracts a great many people. In this restaurant the government has provided balconies where the people may dine in full view of both the Horseshoe and American falls. The refectory orchestra is an attraction recently added. There is also a government restaurant at Queenstown Heights, which serves the convenience of visitors.

Copies of the booklet may be secured by writing the Niagara Falls Park Commission, Niagara Falls, Ont.

PUBLICATIONS FOR FARMERS.

The new list of publications of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa contains titles of nearly three hundred and fifty bulletins, circulars and other pamphlets that deal with agricultural practices. These cover the whole range of agricultural and horticultural pursuits, including dairying, field crops, live stock, orchard and garden crops, poultry, insects and plant disease, farm building construction, farm machinery and many other topics. The subjects are arranged alphabetically under general titles. Not only are the lists themselves available from the Publications Branch of the Department but any of the publications therein contained.

Sewer pipes and bricks may soon be made from the molten lava of the active volcano, Kilauea, in Hawaii.

BRAIN BOX

Did you ever hear the expression, of course you have, when you have been in a critical argumentive mood, "Forget it!" "Oh, forget it," says your impatient friend. Stop harping on that stuff. No one wants to hear your troubles. Forget all about what so and so did, or so and so said, or what happened yesterday and get on with the present and make the best of it."

Rather good philosophy this if taken in the right dose and at the right time.

"Forget it," and yet there are other lines which come to mind, the lines of Kipling, immortalised more than ever through the events of the late war:

"Lord God of Hosts be with us yet
Lest we forget, lest we forget."

And so we have to remember that there is a time to forget and a time when we must not forget. There is the forgetfulness that is born of charity, that charity which sets out with the intention of "covering a multitude of sins" and there is the forgetfulness born of ingratitude. Which of these is predominant today? Do not all speak at once.

All the prophets who prophesied that the end of the war would not bring peace were somewhat right in this, that war fearful as it was, murderous and body-slaying and devouring and disastrous, had not the same subtlety and cruelty of power that the inharmonious agitations of peace time imposed. All over the world to-day, more or less, there is a terrific struggle being waged between man and man and between the best and the worst side of every individual. Between the two sides of the various arguments which society has adopted, a man's conscience might be likened to the tit-bit which is pounced upon by two voracious birds.

Have you ever seen them, two on either side of a worm, pulling and tearing, each trying to get the biggest half. It is a picture of the conscience of many a man today who is not quite sure of the direction in which he wishes to sail under the new order of things as they be. He is convinced somehow that things naturally ought to be somewhat different to that they were a few years ago. There are those who urge him that it depends entirely upon what he demands with a special emphasis on the "D" as to what this world is going to be like for him and all other workers in the future.

Then there is the other one who says, what's the use of making any efforts, what's the use of starting anything fresh; look at what has happened to such efforts in the past. How far have we ever got with this or that? He is the pessimist who is always looking over his shoulder to find a chip.

There is yet another one who settles down contentedly into the same old rut with the jolly phrase upon his lips, "Forget it!" "Oh, well, we had a war, but everything's all over now, so let's just forget there has ever been anything unpleasant and have a jolly good time."

Which course will you take? Will you forget or will you remember? And what will you remember and what will you forget? Will you remember the glorious past that your country and your empire has taken in all history of the past, remember only the best and work that only the best may survive, or will you waste time in raking up doubtful questions, raising issues about things which were mistakes at the time and have long been regretted by many who perpetuated them.

It is a spirit of forgetfulness and a spirit of remembrance both, which is needed so much in the industrial and business world of today if we are to get anywhere at all. Let us forget old troubles, old fights, old disagreements, all grievances which cannot now be remedied by harking backwards. Let us take care to remember that in man himself in the individual and his present action lies the key to the conquest of the future. Did someone call you a failure once? Forget it. No man is a failure who will not recognize defeat in himself. You can always get up and go on again and every day opens anew, and every morning the opportunity for a fresh start. There was never a time for fuller opportunity, never a world so ready and crying out for workers of all kinds, men and women. Intelligence today, with adaptability and readiness to take hold of a job, will win a place for anyone. Try it out. These are the times that we should remember. Are they not the times when those who have the helm kept the home fires burning for us, when they made efforts, probably sometimes mistaken, but they were efforts made to hold the fort intact. Shall we not remember the glorious army of the dead, who fundamentally gave up their lives that we who were left might play a straight game?

"Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet
Lest we forget, lest we forget!"

PLACING A LADDER.

Just when is a ladder safe, both for the man working on it and the people walking under or near it Safety News has worked out a diagram indicating that the angle of 75 degrees offers the maximum of safety. An easy way to secure this angle is to find the length of the ladder, and then place the ladder one-fourth that distance away from the vertical surface it leans against. This angle prevents undue strain or slipping, and yet gives the workman at the top of the ladder sufficient foot-room.

NEW BEDROOM CLOCK.

The latest in clocks, of Swiss invention, has an electric lamp behind a transparent dial, so that when a person lying in bed presses a button the dial throws the shades of the hours and hands, magnified, upon the ceiling.

The vestibule train was unknown 35 years ago.

FACTS ABOUT CANADA

Last year, goods the produce of Canada, were exported to the value of $1,216,443,806.

Of Canada's exportation, goods to the value of $605,159,789 were sent in 1919 to other parts of the British Empire, and goods to the value of $611,284,017 to foreign countries.

More than five-sixths of our exports to other parts of the Empire last year went to Great Britain, namely, to the value of $540,750,977.

Practically every part of the Empire bought something from Canada in the past year. For instance, The Fiji Islands bought to the value of $117,962, and Malta bought to the value of $13,423.

The inland revenue last year amounted to $42,505,989, being twice the inland revenue collected in 1915.

Of our total inland revenue in 1919 the sum of $30,209,017 was derived from excise tax on spirits, wines, ales, malt and tobacco and tobacco products.

The war tax, which is classified as part of inland revenue, produced last year the sum of $11,964,740, and the tax on methylated spirits produced the sum of $322,583.

During the past year the consumption per head of the population of alcoholic beverages and tobacco, paying either excise tax on home manufactures or customs duties on imported goods, was: spirits, .39 gallons; beer, 2.94 galls.; wine, .025 galls.; tobacco, 2.513 pounds. All were below the average of the past fifty years, except that of tobacco.

During the last year the quantity of petroleum inspected and shipped from refineries was 57,434,636 gallons; the quantity of naphtha was 81,228,267 gallons, making a total of 138,662,904 gallons.

The raw materials taken for use in the production of spirits in 1919 were: malt, 996,000 lbs.; Indian corn, 15,310,000 lbs.; rye, 1,775,935 lbs.; oats, 41,900 lbs.; molasses, 58,598,950 lbs.; wheat, 1,237,140 lbs.

The quantity of methylated spirits manufactured in the past year was 319,880 gallons. The quantity sold and that went into use was 325,250 gallons.

POEMS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

Mrs. Craik, better known as Dinah Maria Mulock, was born at Stokes-upon-Trent, England, 1828, and died at Shortlands, Kent, 1887. She was the author of many popular novels. Among her poems was "Thirty Years' Poems," published in 1881. She also wrote many children's books, fairy tales, etc. She married George Lillie Cruik in 1865.

DOUGLAS, DOUGLAS, TENDER AND TRUE.

Could ye come back to me, Douglas, Dauglas,
In all the old likeness that I knew,
I would be so faithful, so loving, Douglas,
Douglas, Douglas, tender and true.

Never a scornful word should grieve ye,
I'd smile on ye sweet as the angels do—
Sweet as your smile on me shone ever,
Douglas, Douglas, tender and true.

O, to call back the days that are not!
My eyes were blinded, your words were few;
Do you know the truth now, up in heaven?
Douglas, Douglas, tender and true.

I never was worthy of you, Douglas,
Not half worthy the like of you;
Now, all men beside seem to me like shadows—
I love you, Douglas, tender and true.

Stretch out your hand to me, Douglas, Douglas,
Drop forgiveness from heaven like dew,
As I lay my heart on your dead heart, Douglas,
Douglas, Douglas, tender and true.

—Miss Mulock.

Helps for the Housewife

HONEY CAKES

The following recipe makes a cake which will appeal to children because of its flavor and shape: Heat ¾ of a cup of honey and ¼ of a cup of butter until the butter melts. While warm add ½ teaspoon of cinnamon, ⅛ teaspoon of cloves and let stand till cold. Dissolve ½ teaspoon of soda in 2 tablespoons of water; beat one egg well and add to the honey. Sift 1½ or 2 cups of flour and add to the mixture a little at a time, stirring in a cup of raisins cut into small pieces. All the flour may not be necessary, but enough should be added to make a dough that will hold its shape. Drop by spoon on a buttered tin and bake in a moderate oven.

Soft Molasses Ginger Bread.

One cup molasses, ⅓ cup butter, 1¾ teaspoons soda, ½ cup sour milk, 1 egg, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons ginger, ½ teaspoon salt. Put butter and molasses in saucepan and cook until boiling point is reached. Remove from fire, add soda and beat vigorously. Then add milk, egg well beaten and remaining ingredients mixed and sifted. Bake 15 minutes in buttered small pans, having two pans two-thirds filled with mixture.

Ship Prices Rise.

Illustration of the tremendous rise in the price of ships is found in the recent experience of a Swedish shipowner. He was offered a certain vessel for $105,000, it is said, and, on investigation, learned that it was the same craft that he had sold in March, 1914, for $7,200, approximately.